

Claims

1. A hard capsule filled with a solution containing an active ingredient, characterized in that the solution contains an inorganic chloride and has a water content (w) of $10 < w \leq 80\%$ and a water activity (a) of $0.50 \leq a \leq 0.90$, and that the capsule is made of a base material containing a cellulose derivative.

2. A hard capsule as described in claim 1, wherein the cellulose derivative is one or more members selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, and hydroxyethyl cellulose.

3. A hard capsule as described in claim 1 or 2, wherein the inorganic chloride is one or more members selected from the group consisting of sodium chloride, magnesium chloride, and calcium chloride.

4. A hard capsule as described in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of an aqueous extract of a medicinal herb, an aqueous extract of animal- or plant-origin, and an aqueous extract of fermented matter.